

Wednesday, 10 August 2022, 12:30pm-4:30pm

Staunton Innovation Hub, 11 N. Central Ave, Staunton, Va. 24401

Agenda

12:51 pm Meeting called to order by *Chair, Joanna Keller*

Board members in person attendance;

Joanna Keller

Patty Smith

Thomas Turner

Phi Kazmierczak

Preston Main

Demas Boudeaur

Evelyn BruMar

Board is one board member short of quorum, so online board members could not be included in the meeting making the inperson a discussion only meeting.

Evelyn BruMar volunteered to be the Interim Secretary

Will have to wait till the board has a quorum to elect a new Va. LGBTQ+ Advisory Board Secretary.

New Member Introductions

New Youngkin appointees introduced themselves to the rest of the board.

Thomas Turner

Phil Kazmierczak

Preston Main

Board was introduced to two Youngkin administration employees

Jenna Moon, Department of Communication Secretary

Maxwell Carson

Chair's Report

Joanna Keller has a written statement that will be attached to the minutes, where she talks about the many transitions this board has experienced since the first meeting a year ago. Where she wants to concentrate on tomorrow/the future of this board and not on obstacles of the past. Where she is excited for the new board and the new members that joined the committee. And how the committees will be working to finalize the drafting of their reports before submitting it to the governor.

Acknowledgement to Amanda Goehring (previous board member/Secretary) for putting together the majority of the Draft VA. LGBTQ+ Advisory Board Annual Report and continues to be a big asset to the board.

Draft Report will include research and recommendation from all four committees.

Housing/Infrastructure (missing draft)
Education/Workforce (submitted)
Safety (missing draft)
Health (missing draft)

Need to make sure with a smaller board (14 from the 21) available that there are enough people for all four committees to complete the report. Assignments will be issued.

New mileage compensation

The reimbursement for travel has been increased to .62.5 cents per mile when board members travel for in person meetings which started on July 1, 2022.

New rules and regulations

For electronic meetings, which is located in the draft form of Electronic Meetings Under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. which are recommended by the FOIA Council. Draft can be found online.

Acknowledgement

Joanna Keller is the third Chair Person of the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board since its creation. Joanna thanked the service of the last two chairs, Kyle Mason and Lisa Turner. As well as the last two vice chairs, Aurora Higgs and Michael Thorn - Begland.

Outreach

Joanna talked about the local committee and how before the meeting the board members who came early were able to visit the LGBTQ+ Community Center in Staunton, The Shenandoah LGBTQ Center.

Many in community are unaware that the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board exist so we must be proactive in our outreach efforts. Joanna suggest creating and passing out business cards with the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board logo and our names with our contact info to the public.

New Adventures as New Chair

While traveling to Richmond for our meeting, parking to walk to meeting location can be a haul. It can also be hard for many in the Commonwealth to attend in person, public and board members. This experience has created a drive for our new chair to push to hold our meeting around the Commonwealth to attract new people to participate and learn about our Advisory Board. Goal is to have 4-5 meetings a year outside of Richmond. December is available for a new location.

Evelyn BruMar brought up creating an Ad-Hoc committee for outreach, since when she proposed a creation of a committee last year it never came to fruition. This Ad-Hoc would be responsible for social media (Facebook and Twitter, Instagram) posts and participating at LGBTQ+ Pride Circuit events. Can also create a survey for the public to comment on what service gaps they are experiencing to include in future Annual Reports.

Board Administration Update (1:27pm) by Suzanne Holland; Advisory Board Administrator
Hot Topic

Travel reimbursements have been backlogged but that 80% of across all advisory boards have received theirs in 2021. Suzanne has kept separate files to help track the reimbursements. The hold up came from the Department of Accounts. New board members will have to submit W9's. Suzanne loved being able to explore a new place and getting to know about the local LGBTQ+ Community Center. Direct engagement with the local community is a plus and very enjoyable for her.

Preston Main

Shared his experience on the visit to the Shenandoah LGBTQ+ Community Center and appreciates the work they do to feed, cloth, house and provide mental health in a rural area helping the local small town area LGBTQ+ people.

Suzanne appreciates how we are meeting people where they are at, how we are and uplifting people who are doing the work, and that the Administration is in a position to help us amplify the work that is being done. We represent their (the LGBTQ+ Community) voices so that it can be heard by the governor.

Shenandoah LGBTQ+ Community Center turned four, and that the Center is a whole floor instead of an office space when it was created.

There will be listening sessions in the community for future meetings.

A five Chair's meeting with the FOIA Committee will be happening to discuss electronic meetings procedures that go into effect September 2022.

Board Seats

LGBTQ+ Advisory Board currently have 14 seats filled out of the 21 seats. 5 terms ended in June and 2 board members resigned. To conduct meetings the board will need 8 members to have a quorum to be able to conduct business. If anyone knows of anyone that would be a good fit for our board please reach out to them and direct them to [Commonwealthva.gov](https://commonwealthva.gov) for board interest to serve.

Timeline of Reports

August - September, Finalizing the Report

September - October, Present Report to cabinet and publish for the public

Recommendations take time and can take years to come to fruition. Not all recommendations translate to policy or legislature. Recommendations can come in the form of budgetary, administrative, Executive Order or Regulatory change or refinement.

Reflect everything through the Governor's priorities and goals, how they align. Checkout Day One Governor's agenda budget list, categories, cutting cost, restructuring excellence in education and keeping commitment of safety.

Could not break out into committee groups due to not having a quorum. But had some members share the work they are doing or have done for the Annual Report.

Patty Smith, Education and Workforce

Submitted Draft Report, issues of concerns are the Model Policies for Transgender Children not being implemented even though it is current law. Work place discrimination and employees not knowing how to advocate for themselves without retaliation.

Demas Boudreaux, Housing

Embracing a Housing First Policy. Have wraparound service for our shelters and unsheltered individuals that include mental health, dentist, financial education and transportation. LGBTQ+ competency training for realtors and home sellers. Will finish writing up the report to submit.

Evelyn BruMar, Health

Not having Queer health information for our hearing and visually impaired community members be addressed. Having health forms be standardized to include pronouns, gender identity and standard of care taken while transgenders or transitioning members of our community leave foster care, shelters, hospitals, jails and prisons so as to minimize health care damage when leaving or entering these facilities. Coordinate inclusive, Queer compentant forms from Department of Education, Department of Veterns Affairs, Department of Aging and Department of Public Health so that health care information is eazily transferible to each department to rural, town and city government ageinceies. Chair of the Health Committee, Dr. Monica Motley, used her proprietary data analysis tool which makes her the only one who can submit the draft report to the rest of the board.

Chair Joanna Keller reminded us we have two weeks to finish the committee's draft report to be approved and submitted. Chair needs reports no later than August 20th.

Advisory Board Lawyer, Justin Bell spoke on how we can finish the report without having a full board present. How the Chair has the power to create Ad-Hoc committees to finish the work.

Break (2:15pm - 2:39pm)

No Committee Reports

No final recommendations due to not having a quorum so Chair Joanna Keller asked Demas to share his experience getting the Moneypox vaccination.

Demas Boudreaux,

There is a lack of dosages to cover the ongoing outbreak which caused him to travel out of town in search of an appointment. That the recommended dosage has been reduced to ensure that more people can get some protection. There will be some pain but not like with Covid-19 vaccine. His next appointment for the next dose will be in four weeks.

Discussion of Board Operations Procedures

Chair Joanna Keller

Spoke about having guidelines to ensure the flow of future meetings. She shared a hand out about Committee Meeting - Best Practices FAQ that was Drafted by S. Holland from the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Joanna also wants the board to create bylaws to help us stick to a Value system that includes a Code of Conduct to help us understand the differences between the members and Operating Procedures based on Roberts Rules of Order. Maybe having a Sergeant at Arms or a Parliamentarian.

Creating Ad Hoc

The creation of OUTreach Ad Hoc Committee was done at the pleasure of the Chair. This Ad Hoc Committee is Chaired By Evelyn BruMar and currently has two other members Patty Smith and Joanna Keller. The goal is to help inform the public through Social Media and through in person Pride Events the existence and work of the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board to the Governor. It is also another way for the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board to get input from the larger community of the lack of services, additional protection and needs we are advocating for.

The creation of a Governance Ad Hoc Committee, was done at the pleasure of the Chair. This was done to help the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board finish the report without a quorum so that we can submit the report to Governor Youngkin. Members who have stepped up to be members are Phi Kazmierczak, Thomas Turner Suffolk and Demas Boudreaux.

Chair reminded us that there will be an opportunity to socialized after the meeting at The Clock Tower and that at the next Board Meeting we will need to vote in a Secretary.

Public Comment

Phi Kazmierczak took up the Time Keeper position for the meeting. Each speaker was allowed two minutes.

In attendance online

James Milner - No Comment

Jess Simmons - Enjoyed the meeting and wants the board to consider holding their next meeting in Farmville.

Bryan Price - No Comment

Amanda Goehring - No Comment

Eric Kolenich - No Comment

Roland Winston (Council on Aging and LGBTQ) - Submitted a written comment to be added to the minutes.

Closing Remarks (3:23pm)

Chair Joanna Keller thanked everyone, expressed her excitement about the new members who have joined our LGBTQ+ Advisory Board and will help direct them into openings with in the exciting committees and possible new positions. She reminded us that she is always open and available to answer any question and help. She wants to make this a positive board and if anyone wants to share issues with her she is discreet. Next Board meeting will be in December. And Thanks to the Governor's Staff for being in attendance.

Adjournment (3:27 pm)